

AMENDMENT

Application No. 10/014,981

REMARKS

At the time of the Examiner's Action, claims 1-21 were pending in the application and claims 1-8 have been allowed.

The Examiner restricted the claims into 3 claim sets or groups, namely Group I including claims 1-8, Group II including claims 9-14 and claims 19-21, and Group III including claims 15-18. Applicant provisionally elected Group I with traverse. Applicant has amended independent claims 9 and 15 once again so that the remaining claims sets (or portions thereof) should no longer be considered distinct from the provisionally elected Group of claims under MPEP sections 806.05(f) and (h). The process as claimed in amended claim 9 cannot be used to make materially different products or the product as claimed in claim 1 cannot be made by a materially different process. Likewise, the process for using a product as claimed in claim 15 cannot be used with a materially different product or the products as claimed in claim 1 cannot be used in a materially different process of using that product. As amended, all the remaining claims should be considered part of a single invention properly examined in a single application. Applicant respectfully requests same. Furthermore, the Applicant respectfully believes the remaining claims of the present invention are novel and nonobvious over Derbyshire or Vadhar or any other reference cited either individually or in combination.

Early indication of allowability is respectfully requested. Should any minor points remain prior to issuance of a Notice of Allowance, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,



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